Festival of Learning Showcase

Facilitator(s): Associate Professor Niki Hynes, Curtin Graduate School of Business

Strategic theme: Leading in innovative education

Subject Title: Simulations in online and face to face learning: A study of student expectations, motivations and experiences

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Brief Description:

This presentation examines the introduction of a simulation game into an asynchronous learning environment. Most simulation games are used within class time or within a synchronous learning environment and there is little literature or knowledge about how to use these in the ever growing fully online learning environment. An online, team-based simulation was introduced into a fully online marketing management course for MBA students. To allow asynchronous delivery but with direct competition between teams, the course and its assessments were redesigned to allow this to occur for teams of students who might be separated by time or distance.

Survey data was collected prior to the simulation being undertaken and focused on capturing students' learning styles, their preferred team styles, as well as their level of competitiveness and expectations or concerns about simulations as mechanism for learning. Once the simulation was over, a second survey captured data on their experiences and learning outcomes. Data analysis is currently underway but qualitative data from evaluate and other means suggests online students engaged with and learnt from this method.

Benefits: Using classroom based simulations in an asynchronous online environment.

Time/Day: Thursday 19 March 2015; 12:00 – 12:30 pm

Duration: 30 mins

No. of Sessions: One

Venue: Building 300:Room 220

Special Requirements: No special requirements needed